CHARLTON COMICS
GHOSTLY TALES FROM THE HAUNTED HOUSE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NO. 73
MAY
CDC
12¢
HA, HA, HA! GUESS WHO "THE FLYING DUTCHMAN" SEES IN THE COCKPIT OF HIS LAST KNOWN FLIGHT?... ... AND HERE ON THE LEFT, HARRY IS MAKING A PACT WITH MR. SCRATCH BEEZLEBUB LUCIFER IN... "LOSERS WEEPERS" ... BELOW YOU CAN SEE THE HEROES OF ALL TIME BEING BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE BY NECROLOGIST WALTER JONES IN A MISSION TO SAVE THE PLANET EARTH FROM DICTATOR ROJUS IN THE "LAST MAN FREE"

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LOSERS WEEPERS

AN' ONE SPRING DAY, I'M DOING MY WORK WHEN THIS HOT-CHA DAME WALTZES BY.

YA DROPPED YA NOSE RAG, LADY!
HOW SIMPLY WONDERFUL OF YOU TO NOTICE! MY NAME IS PRUNELLA SHREW, BUT YOU CAN CALL ME PRUNEY!

WELL, ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER, AND THE FIRST THING I KNOW I'M DOING THE GROOM BIT, WIT' PRUNEY DOIN' THE BRIDE... ALL MY FRIENDS ARE THERE, SINGING...
ALL THE LOVELY PEE-PUL... WHERE DO THEY ALL COME FROM...

M-MOAN
I HAVE A KEEN SPRISE FOR YOU, HARRY MY LOVEY!
YEA-H? WHAZZAT, M' DOVE?

MY SISTERS, SNOTELLA AND SCUMELLA! THEY'RE GOING TO LIVE WITH US!
HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH OF A MAN TO ME!
WHY DOESN'T THE LOUT GET BUSY AND FIX US DINNER!?

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

"Let me show YOU too, HOW TO MAKE YOURSELF

ASTRONAUT -TOUGH

Inside and out...in double quick time —OR IT WON'T COST YOU A CENT!"

says *Ben Rebhahn*

whom experts called today's

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WHICH OF MY 181,000 PUPILS WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

I GAINED 60 LBS. OF SHAPELY MIGHTY MUSCLES

says JOHN GILL

I added 7 inches to MY CHEST, 3½ INCHES to EACH ARM. No, Pal. You don't have to be a chicken-chested skinny weakling like I was only a few weeks ago.

"I LOST 30 LBS. of dangerous UGLY FAT 4 inches off my WAIST!"

says Felipe Mendez

Which of these 2 ME'S is YOU?

"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY was ME a few weeks ago." Look at him NOW! Gave him MIGHTY MUSCLES, added 7 inches to his CHEST, 3 inches on each arm! No! I don't care how fat and flabby you are. All I want is minutes a day in your home to make you over by the same method.

This AMAZING NEW BOOK is colors TOURS FREE if you mail COUPON NOW

Jam-full with 120 PHOTOS of STRONG MEN and CHAMPIONS once WEAKER than you. See their pitiful BEFORE Photos and Stories. Scores of How-to-do-it Pictures show you how YOU can quickly and easily achieve astronaut-like STRENGTH, SPEED and ENDURANCE.

Don't let this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity get away from you. Mail the coupon for all 5 world-famous picture-packed ABC courses—and amazing FREE Photo Book of Famous Strong Men. Do it NOW!

TO WIT AND NAMELY, EXACTLY ONE-HALF OF YOUR IMMORTAL SOUL!
HOW DO I GIVE YA THAT?
NOTHING SIMPLER, BUDDY! SIMPLY HOLD THIS SOUL COLLECTING BOTTLE AGAINST YOUR CHEST!

NOW THAT'S DONE, LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT YOUR LOUD-MOUTH LADIES!
YEAH! HOW YOU GONNA WORK IT!

I AM NOT! YOU ARE.. BY GETTING THAT GLEE-SOME THREESOME TO STEP THROUGH THE DOOR HERE!
B-BUT THAT DOOR JUST LEADS TO A CLOSET!

CORRECTION, FRIEND! IT USED TO BE A CLOSET! NOW, WITH A LITTLE SPACE-TIME ALTERATION, I MADE IT A BOTTOMLESS PIT!
HOT DIGGETY DOG!

OH, GIRLS! CAN YOU C'MERE A MINUTE? I GOT A TREAT FER YAS!
IT'S ABOUT TIME THE BUM GOT US A TREAT!
WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS, ANYWAY?!!
IT BETTER BE A NICE TREAT!

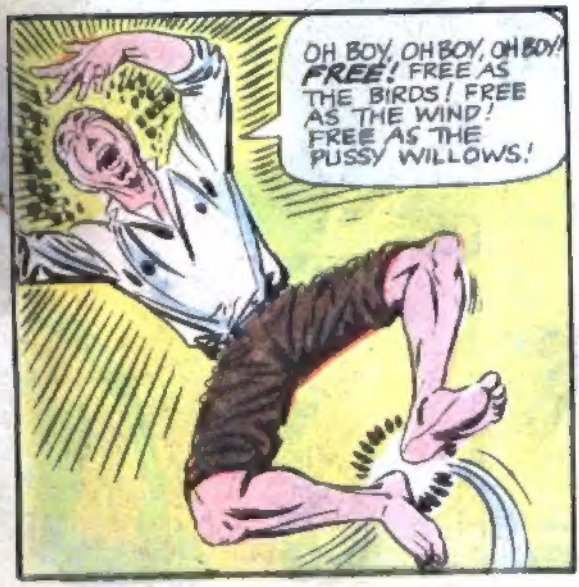
RIGHT IN THE CLOSET, DEARIES!

YIIIIIII!
WELL DONE, CHUM!

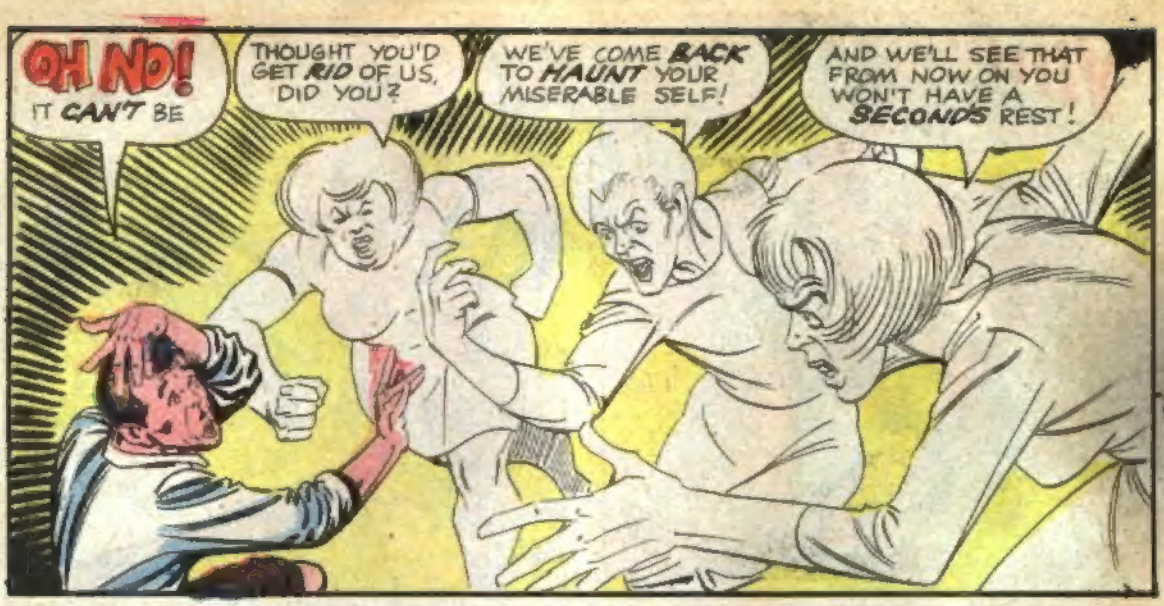
THREE GROSS BODIES OUT OF THE WAY ..AND IT ONLY COST YOU A LOUSY HALF SOUL!
YUH SAY, WHATCHA GONNA DO WIT' JUST HALF OF MY SOUL?

WAIT TILL I GET THE OTHER HALF, NATCH!
OOOO NO! THAT'S JUST WHAT YA AIN'T GONNA GET!

WE'LL SEE, HARRY! WE WILL SEE! BYE NOW!


OH BOY, OH BOY, OH BOY! FREE! FREE AS THE BIRDS! FREE AS THE WIND! FREE AS THE PUSSY WILLOWS!

FREE AS... ULP!
HAA-R-YY

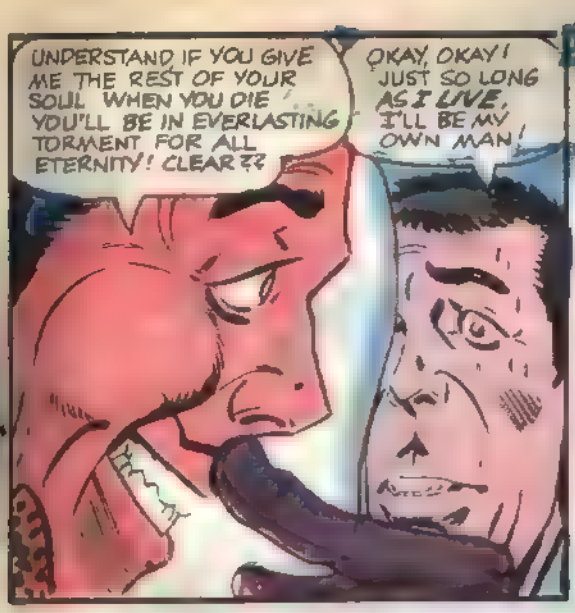

OH NO! IT CAN'T BE
THOUGHT YOU'D GET RID OF US, DID YOU?
WE'VE COME BACK TO HAUNT YOUR MISERABLE SELF!
AND WE'LL SEE THAT FROM NOW ON YOU WON'T HAVE A SECONDS REST!

AS GHOSTS, WE DON'T HAVE TO EAT...
...TO SLEEP...
TO DO ANYTHING EXCEPT KEEP YOU HOPPING! HEE HEE!

GET BUSY! MOP THAT FLOOR!
PAINT THE WALLS!
WASH THE WINDOWS!
PLEEZE...MR. DEVIL! COME BACK!

YOU CALLED?
WHO'S THIS?
ONE OF HIS BUMMY BUDDIES!
GET OUTTA HERE, BUM!

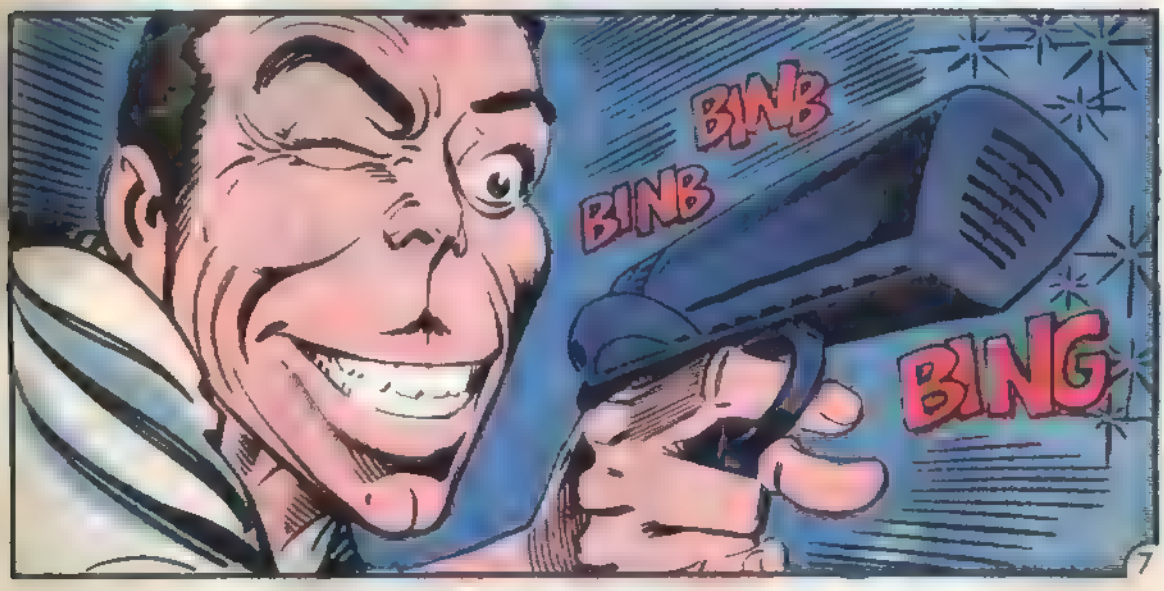
HELP ME GET RID OF 'EM? YA GOTTA!
MIGHT BE I CAN DO SOMETHING FOR YOU, PALLY! COURSE, IT'LL COST YOU... AND YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT!


UNDERSTAND IF YOU GIVE ME THE REST OF YOUR SOUL WHEN YOU DIE ... YOU'LL BE IN EVERLASTING TORMENT FOR ALL ETERNITY! CLEAR??
OKAY, OKAY! JUST SO LONG AS I LIVE, I'LL BE MY OWN MAN!

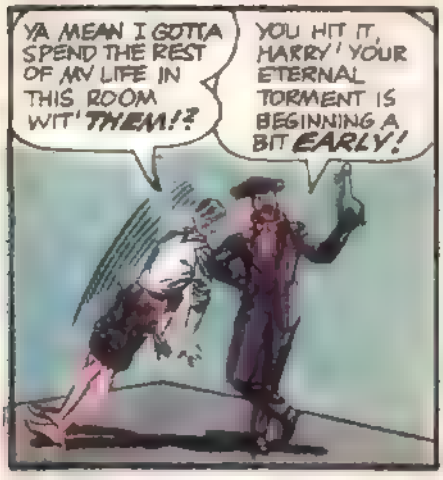
AND I HAVE TO PROTECT MY INVESTMENT! SO FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY IN THIS ROOM I'LL GIVE YOU FOOD BUT I WON'T LET YOU LEAVE, EVER!
YA GOT A DEAL! ANYTHING FOR PEACE AN' QUIET!

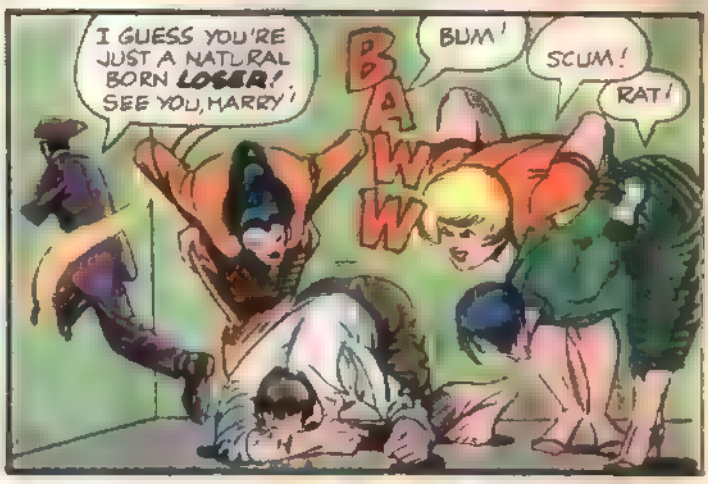
YOU SEE IN MY HAND A GHOST GUN! ONE PULL OF THAT TRIGGER AND THE GHOST SHOT WILL CHANGE TO A NON-GHOST!
GIMME THAT GUN! GIMMEE!

YOU THINK IT'LL WORK?
THE BUM'S BLUFFING!
YOU CAN'T SCARE US, BUM!
OH BOY! THIS IS THE HAPPIEST MOMENT I EVER HAD!


BINB
BINB
BING

T-THEY'RE STILL HERE! WORSE'N THAT, THEY'RE ALIVE AGAIN!
NATCH! LIKE I SAID, THE GUN CHANGED 'EM TO NON-GHOSTS... AND A NON-GHOST IS A LIVING PERSON! RIGHT?


YA MEAN I GOTTA SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE IN THIS ROOM WIT' THEM!?
YOU HIT IT, HARRY! YOUR ETERNAL TORMENT IS BEGINNING A BIT EARLY!


I GUESS YOU'RE JUST A NATURAL BORN LOSER! SEE YOU, HARRY!
BAWW
BUM!
SCUM!
RAT!

GET TO WORK!
HARRY, I'M AFRAID WE'VE COME TO THE END OF THE STORY! IS THERE ANY LAST REQUEST YOU'D LIKE TO MAKE?
YEAH... YEAH!

PLEASE PLEASE! IF ANY OF YA OUT THERE KNOW OF ANY WAY TO MAKE 'EM SHUT UP
PLEASE. PLEEEEZE... SEND IT TO ME ON A POST CARD! I'LL EVEN PAY FOR THE POST CARD... ONLY SEND IT PLEEEEZZZ!
THE END

Skelto's Skeletons

"I am a very busy man," said John Hartway, president of Hartway Toys, Inc. "In five minutes I must catch my plane for Kansas City. We plan to build a new toy factory there. Were it not for the fact that once you were my son's teacher, I would not have seen you at all."

The rudeness in the speaker's voice has no effect whatsoever on Professor Louis Martin. In fact there was something that looked like a condescending smile on his face.

"As soon as I show you what I have in my briefcase," he replied, "you will cancel your flight to Kansas City. And within one year we will be millionaries many times over."

Quickly the Professor took from his briefcase a handful of little plastic skeletons He placed them on the desk.

"Nothing unusual about them," commented John Hartway who was getting impatient.

"They obey my orders," explained the Professor. "Now watch them go into action. Jump into the air! Lay down on the desk! Start running."

And a bewildered toy manufacturer watched two inch high plastic skeletons obey the orders given to them.

"Can I look at one of them?" he finally asked.

"Go right ahead and see for yourself. Just plain plastic. But how I get them to do things is my secret. I will manufacture them and give them to you to distribute. Interested?"

There was no reply to that last one word question in words. John Hartway merely pushed the button on his office phone and spoke to his secretary

"Cancel my flight to Kansas City. If anyone wants to see me, no matter how urgent the matter may be, I am not available. Just remember that."

Then turning to the Professor he asked him one question at a time and in return got his answers

"What would you call them?"

"Skelto's Skeletons."

"How do we split profits?"

"Fifty-fifty."

"When can you start delivering the first hundred thousand?"

"You will have them tomorrow. They are already made up."

Within three months, millions of these skeletons had been sold. All over the world. And a small booklet went with each package. Giving the orders that would be obeyed by Skelto's Skeletons. Any little boy or girl could give the orders and they would be followed.

But meanwhile in a famous research laboratory, John Hartway was waiting for a decision. And Dr. Peters Amors gave it to him.

"I am well aware of the fact that you have gone to other specialists to find an answer. And all I can tell you is what you already know. The plastic is based upon ground animal bones. Almost indestructible. But why do they obey orders and move? This I can't find out. It seems reasonable to assume that somehow they do react to sound waves. That is as far as I can go. But I can tell you this much. Several governments including our own, would also like to find the answer. Just imagine what would happen if we could turn them into soldiers? Or into full size robots to obey our commands."

In the cellar of an old house, Professor Louis Martin sat at his desk. He was surrounded by full size skeletons. He pushed a button and then spoke into a microphone.

"Attention, Skelto's Skeletons all over the world. From this minute on you no longer obey any orders but mine. We are now ready to take over the entire world. Those skeletons in North and South America follow plan A. Those in Europe and Asia follow plan B. Those in Africa and the Mid East follow plan C. Others will follow Plan D.

Remember, nothing can destroy you. You will be joined by my special helpers. That is all."

Then turning to the full size skeletons at his side, he gave them an order.

"Bring that toy manufacturer here to me alive. That is all."

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- ☐ Dark Brown
- ☐ Black
- ☐ Blonde
- ☐ Auburn (Red)
- ☐ Silver (Grey)

Name . . . . . .

Address . . . . . .

City . . . . . State & Zip . . . . . .

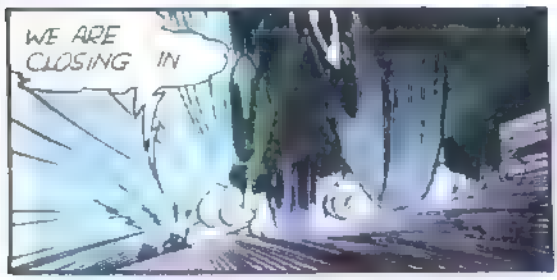
11 TEXT PLAND

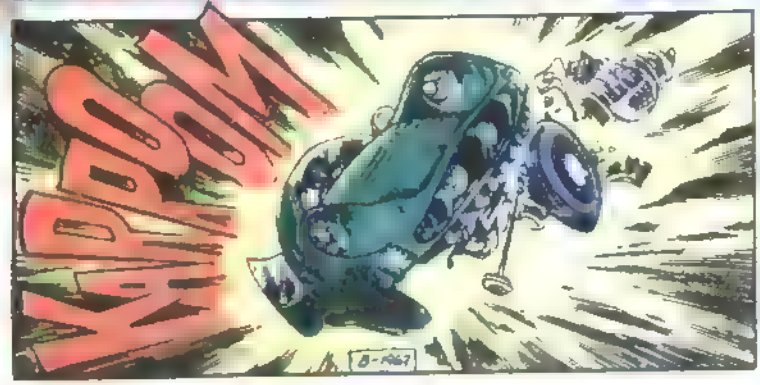
LAST MAN FREE

EDITOR SAL GENTILE
SCRIPT JOE GILL
ART BY SANHO KIM

DICTATOR ROJUS — OF THE RENEGADE PLANET CORELLA — HAS ENSLAVED ALL THE GREEN PLANET EARTH SOON HE WILL BE DICTATOR OF THE UNIVERSE

NECROLOGIST WALTER JONES — THE ONLY 'DISSENTER' LEFT ALIVE — SCHEDULED TO BE LIQUIDATED — IS ON THE RUN FROM ROJUS' HYPER-EFFICIENT CARDINAL COMMANDOS





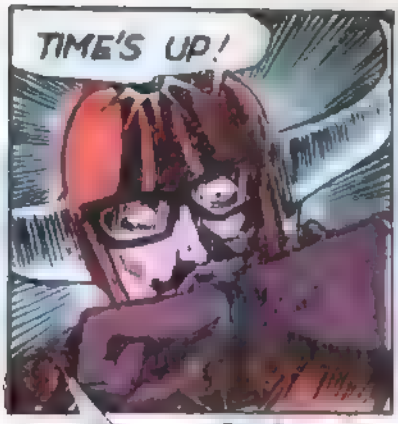
BBARSHH!
UGHHH!
MY MACHINE...!
MY PYGMALION MACHINE!
INTO THE HALL! GOTTA HURRY!
BAR
ROOMM
UNGH! GRUNT!
WHEE
HAL
OF
HE

WHEE
I, ROJUS, YOUR BELOVED DICTATOR, HAVE ARRIVED TO TAKE PERSONAL COMMAND OF THIS MOP-UP OPERATION!
WHERE'S THE BETA-RAY DISINTEGRATOR? WHERE'S THE RAY GUN? EMPLOY IT IMMEDIATELY!
BLAZING SKYBOLTS! I HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT AN OLD BONE HOUSE?
BUT THEN THE ENTIRE EDIFICE WILL BE DECIMATED!
TAKE SOME MEN IN THERE BUT YOU HAVE ONLY FIVE MINUTES TO ELIMINATE THAT RUNT.
FIRE THE BETA RAY DISCHARGE IN EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES!

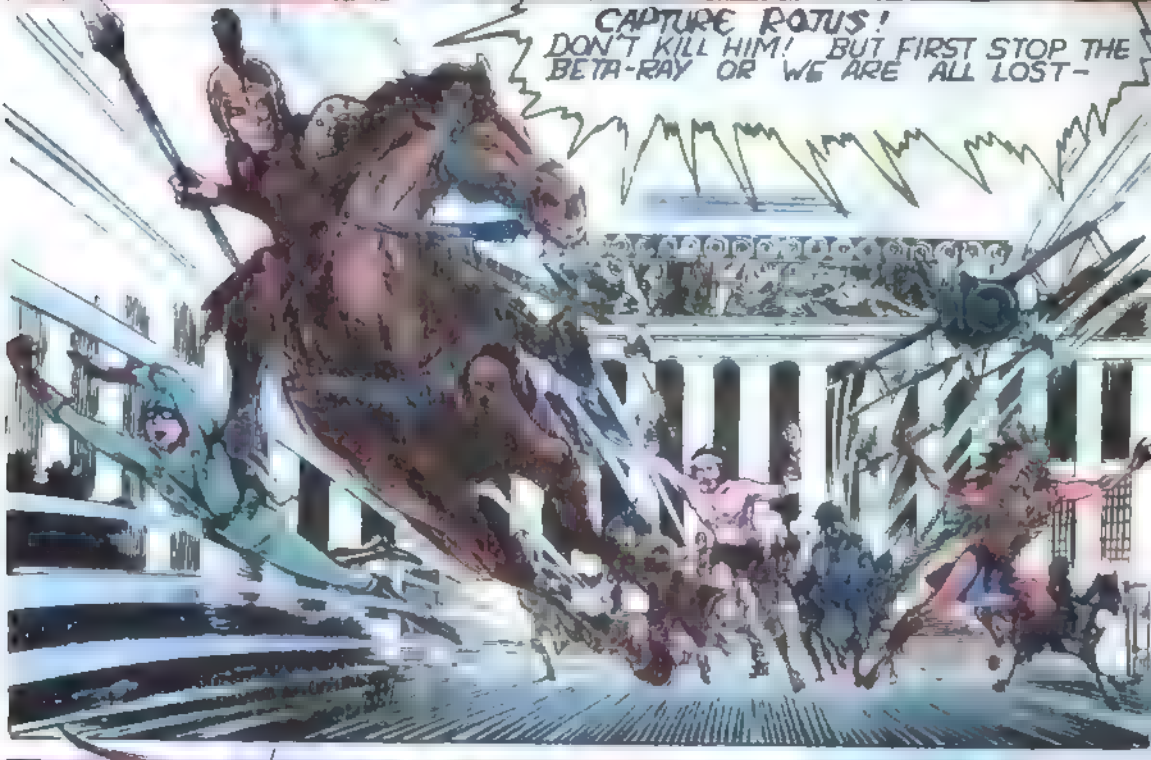
YOU MEN, FOLLOW ME!
INSIDE THE HALL!

THIS ONE ISN'T RESPONDING YET PERHAPS THE VOLTAGE-BYPASS REGULATOR SHOULD BE TITILLATED
PUURRMM
IF THEY WILL ONLY GIVE IT ANOTHER SEVEN SECONDS BEFORE THEY BETATIZE ME
PUURRMM
CREAK
THERE HE IS!
FIRE!
BAM
BAM
BARAM

WHAT BE THE MEANING OF THIS OUTRAGEOUS AGGRESSION? YOU SHAN'T HARM MY BENEFACTOR!
DIABOLISM!
WITCHCRAFT
SORCERY!
DEVILTRY!
MY PYGMALION MACHINE WORKS!
KWUNKK!
THUNKK!
AAIEEEE
I DESPISE ALL DESPOTS AND THEIR PETTY HIRELINGS!


TIME'S UP!

FIRE THE BETA RAY! DESTROY THAT LACKEY SCIENTIST AND HIS DEPOSITORY OF DEAD ADVENTURERS!

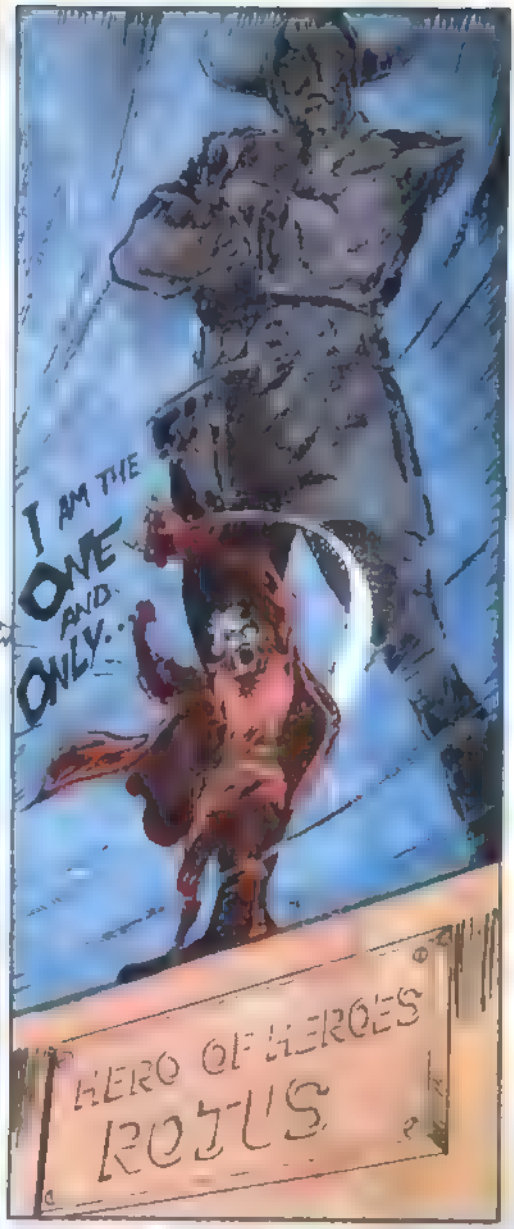

CAPTURE ROTUS! DON'T KILL HIM! BUT FIRST STOP THE BETA-RAY OR WE ARE ALL LOST-

THURP!
IT BE ONE-THOUSAND YEAR SINCE I POISED SHAFT AGAINST THE VARLET PRINCE JOHN BUT MY DEATHNESS BE NOT LOST!
THE BETA RAY IS STILL IT WON'T DISCHARGE!
CHOK!
CHOK!

ARRGHH
KRAMM
UNDICTATORIAL
UGH!
BASH
KRUNCH
UGGHH
AAEEIIIE!
UGH
UNCOMPUTER-OLOGICAL!
THUMP!
OOFF
FRAK!
KYA!
BUT, I AM
BAM!
BAM
KWAK!

THEY WILL NEVER TAKE ME! HA! HA! HAH!

HEE! HEE!
I AM INVINCIBLE! HEE! HEE!


I AM THE ONE AND ONLY...
HERO OF HEROES
ROJUS

BECAUSE I AM ROJUS HA HA! HAH!

THERE HE IS THERE'S THE GREAT ROJUS WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM ANYMORE

HE'S CLIMBED UP ON HIS PEDESTAL FOR THE LAST TIME
AND, I'M AFRAID, MY VALIANT FRIENDS MUST CLIMB BACK UP ON THEIR PEDESTALS FOR WHAT HOPE IS ALSO THE LAST TIME
THE END

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ALL RIGHT, AUNT BETH, THIS IS IT! YOUR FIRST SOLO! AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING... I'VE SEEN TO... **EVERYTHING!**

K20

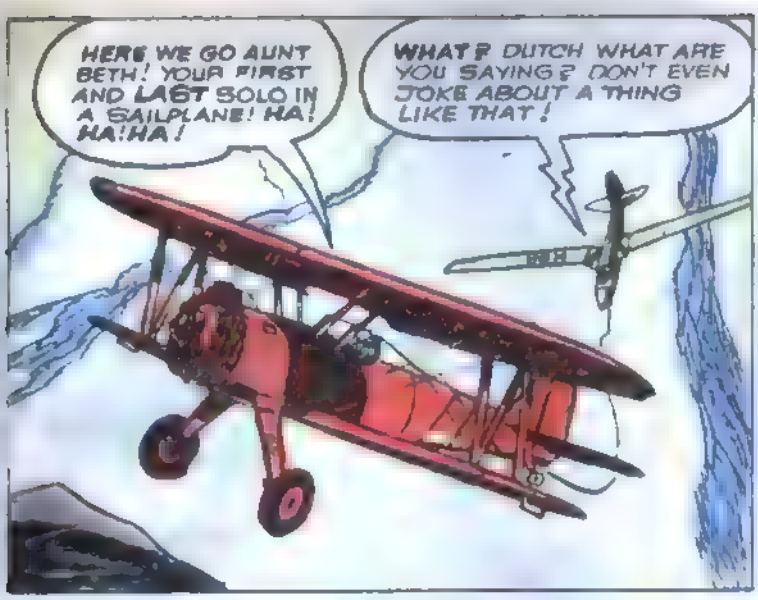
20

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, DUTCH ..I'VE MANAGED HARDER THINGS THAN THIS BEFORE!

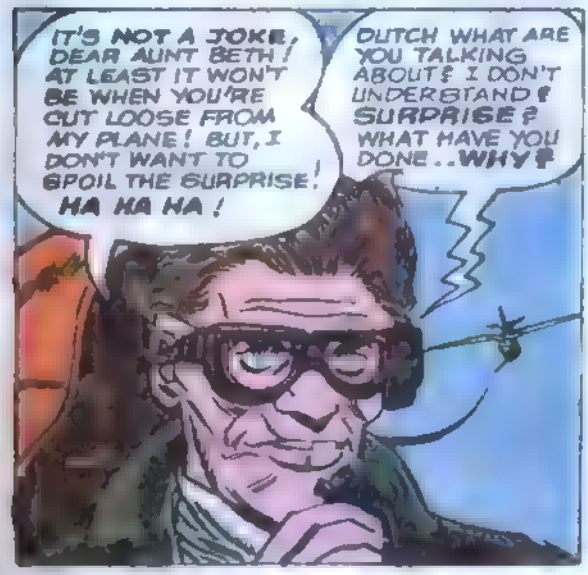
IF A MAN EVER REALLY DECIDED TO GET RID OF SOMETHING HE DIDN'T LIKE - HE COULD PROBABLY FIND A **WAY** TO DO IT! BUT IN THE CASE OF **DUTCH HEINS**, AN INTREPID AIRMAN - THE **METHOD** OF DISPOSAL WAS SOMEWHAT **UNIQUE!**

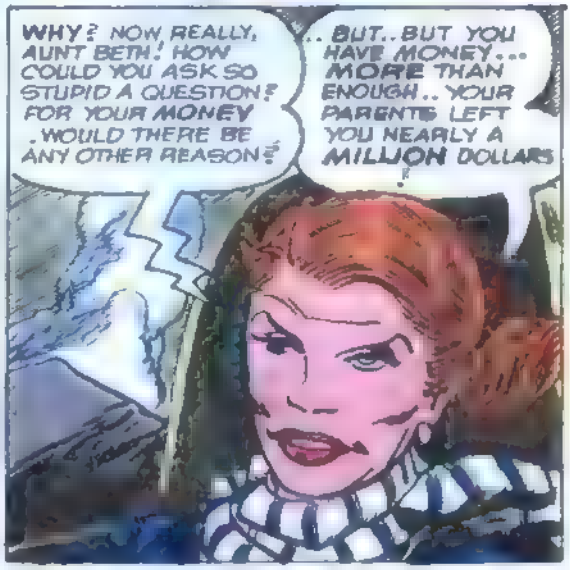
THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

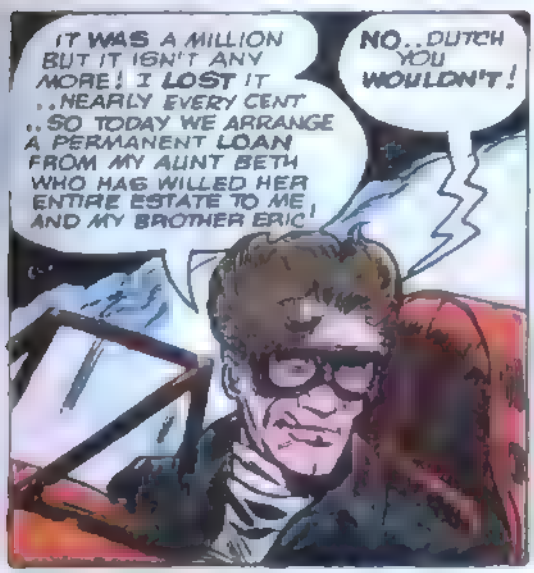
B-1772

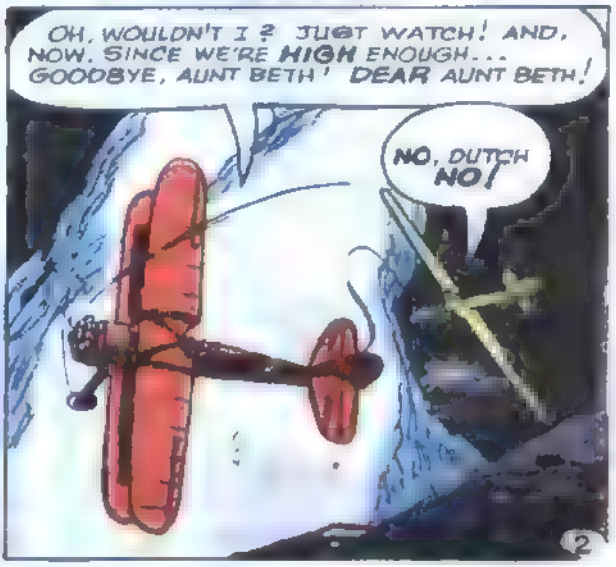

HERE WE GO AUNT BETH! YOUR FIRST AND LAST SOLO IN A SAILPLANE! HA! HA! HA!
WHAT? DUTCH WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT A THING LIKE THAT!

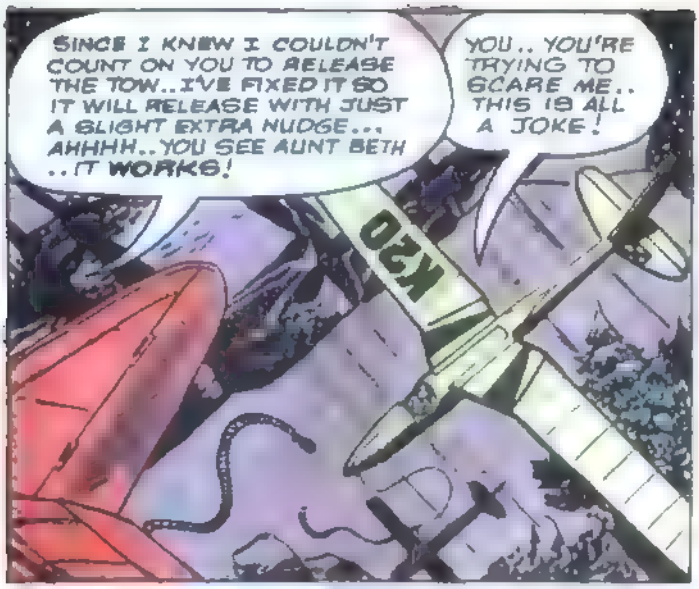
NO! I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO STOP HIM!


IT'S NOT A JOKE, DEAR AUNT BETH! AT LEAST IT WON'T BE WHEN YOU'RE CUT LOOSE FROM MY PLANE! BUT, I DON'T WANT TO SPOIL THE SURPRISE! HA HA HA!
DUTCH WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T UNDERSTAND? SURPRISE? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE..WHY?


WHY? NOW, REALLY, AUNT BETH! HOW COULD YOU ASK SO STUPID A QUESTION? FOR YOUR MONEY .WOULD THERE BE ANY OTHER REASON?
..BUT..BUT YOU HAVE MONEY... MORE THAN ENOUGH..YOUR PARENTS LEFT YOU NEARLY A MILLION DOLLARS!


IT WAS A MILLION BUT IT ISN'T ANY MORE! I LOST IT ..NEARLY EVERY CENT ..SO TODAY WE ARRANGE A PERMANENT LOAN FROM MY AUNT BETH WHO HAS WILLED HER ENTIRE ESTATE TO ME AND MY BROTHER ERIC!
NO..DUTCH YOU WOULDN'T!

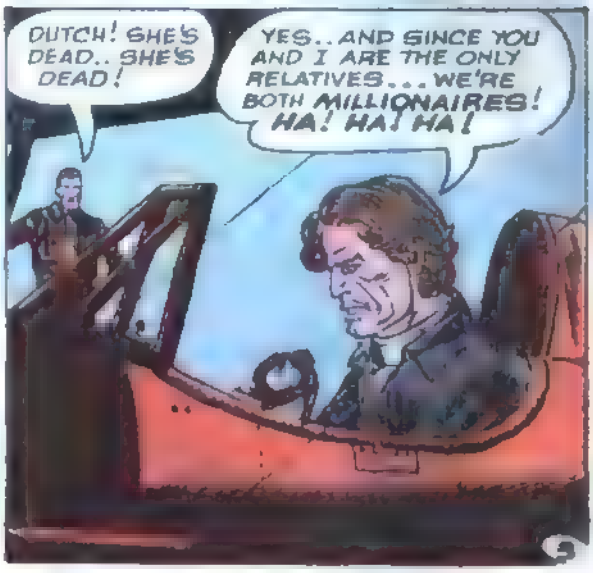

OH, WOULDN'T I? JUST WATCH! AND, NOW, SINCE WE'RE HIGH ENOUGH... GOODBYE, AUNT BETH! DEAR AUNT BETH!
NO, DUTCH NO!

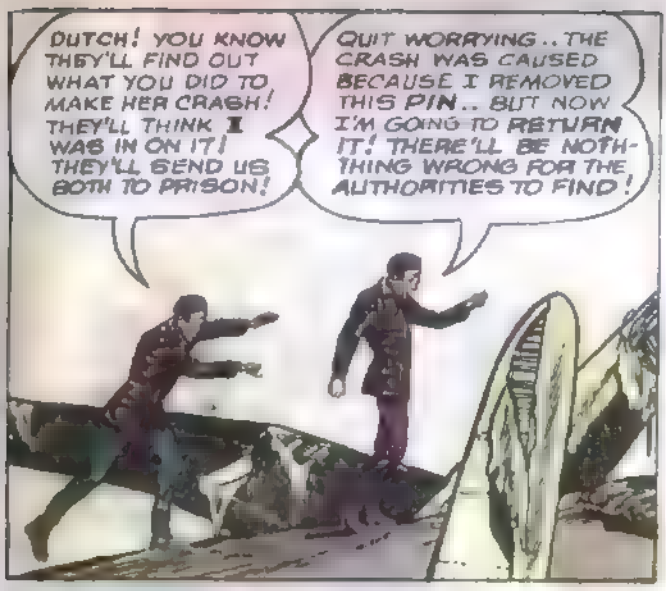

SINCE I KNEW I COULDN'T COUNT ON YOU TO RELEASE THE TOW.. I'VE FIXED IT SO IT WILL RELEASE WITH JUST A SLIGHT EXTRA NUDGE... AHHHH.. YOU SEE AUNT BETH .. IT WORKS!
YOU.. YOU'RE TRYING TO SCARE ME.. THIS IS ALL A JOKE!
K20

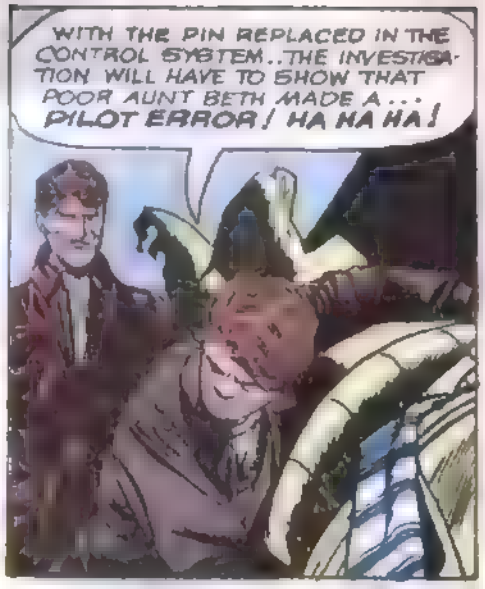
DUTCH! DUTCH! IT WON'T CONTROL!

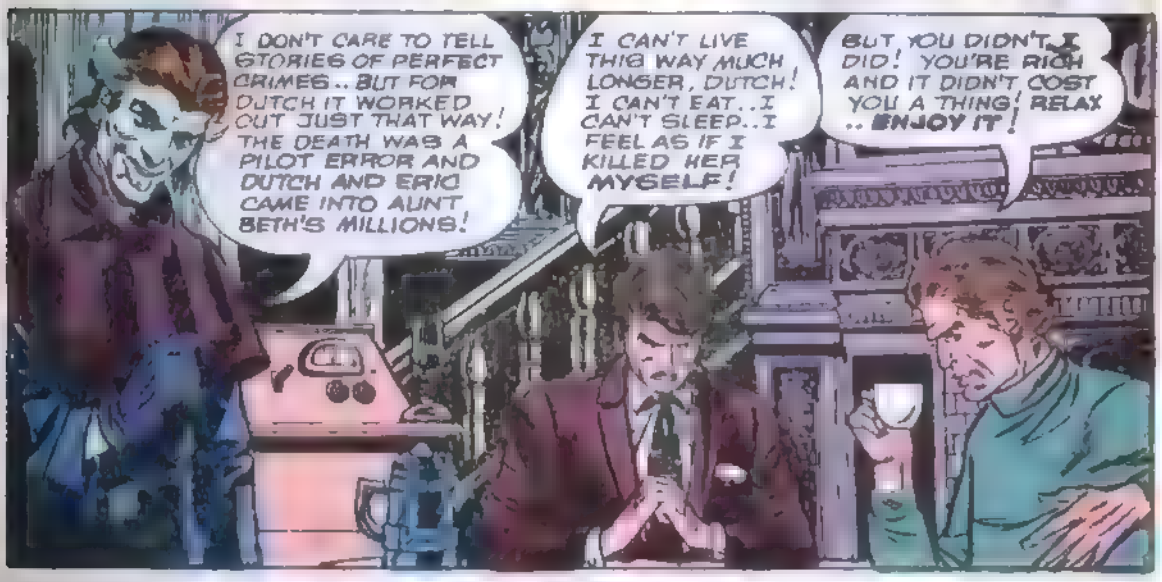
K20

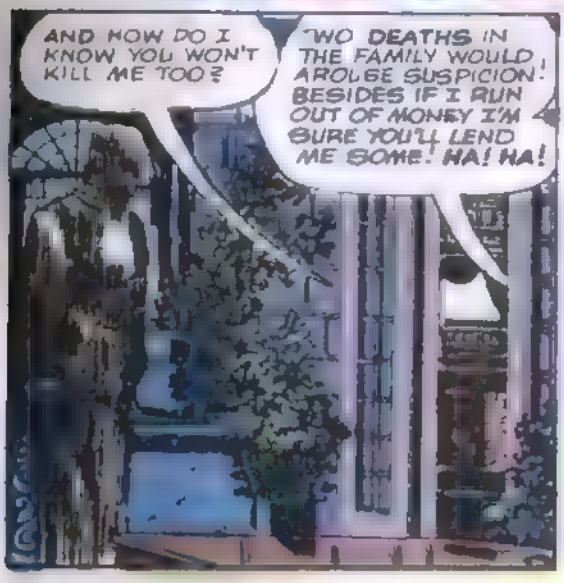
HE DID... HE SAID HE WOULD AND HE DID!
HE'S KILLED HER!


DUTCH! SHE'S DEAD.. SHE'S DEAD!
YES.. AND SINCE YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY RELATIVES... WE'RE BOTH MILLIONAIRES! HA! HA! HA!


DUTCH! YOU KNOW THEY'LL FIND OUT WHAT YOU DID TO MAKE HER CRASH! THEY'LL THINK I WAS IN ON IT! THEY'LL SEND US BOTH TO PRISON!
QUIT WORRYING.. THE CRASH WAS CAUSED BECAUSE I REMOVED THIS PIN.. BUT NOW I'M GOING TO RETURN IT! THERE'LL BE NOTHING WRONG FOR THE AUTHORITIES TO FIND!


WITH THE PIN REPLACED IN THE CONTROL SYSTEM..THE INVESTIGATION WILL HAVE TO SHOW THAT POOR AUNT BETH MADE A... PILOT ERROR! HA HA HA!


I DON'T CARE TO TELL STORIES OF PERFECT CRIMES.. BUT FOR DUTCH IT WORKED OUT JUST THAT WAY! THE DEATH WAS A PILOT ERROR AND DUTCH AND ERIC CAME INTO AUNT BETH'S MILLIONS!
I CAN'T LIVE THIS WAY MUCH LONGER, DUTCH! I CAN'T EAT..I CAN'T SLEEP..I FEEL AS IF I KILLED HER MYSELF!
BUT YOU DIDN'T I DID! YOU'RE RICH AND IT DIDN'T COST YOU A THING! RELAX .. ENJOY IT!


AND HOW DO I KNOW YOU WON'T KILL ME TOO?
TWO DEATHS IN THE FAMILY WOULD AROUSE SUSPICION! BESIDES IF I RUN OUT OF MONEY I'M SURE YOU'LL LEND ME SOME! HA! HA!

NOW COME ON..ALL OF YOUR MEALY MOUTHED WHINING MAKES ME SICK AND THE ONLY PLACE I GET THE PEACE I WANT IS IN THE AIR... SAILING..!!

NOW DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS ABOUT TRYING THE SAME THING ON ME THAT I DID ON AUNT BETH! THE AUTHORITIES WON'T CARE WHO IT IS WHO IS LEFT IF SUDDENLY ANOTHER ACCIDENT SHOULD HAPPEN! THEY'RE NOT STUPID!
I..I COULDN'T EVEN IF I WANTED TO!
..THE BOY'S AUNT BETH STRIKES ME AS QUITE AN INTERESTING PERSON! I'LL BET SHE COULD TELL SOME TALES HERSELF! BUT I CAN'T MINGLE WITH THE FATES! HUMMM..BUT THERE IS SOMETHING GOING ON IN HER MIND...THAT'S FOR CERTAIN!
KLUK
DUTCH? DUTCH? ARE YOU THERE? ANSWER ME DUTCH! ARE YOU ENJOYING YOURSELF? YOU LIKE TO FLY, DON'T YOU? WELL, SO DID I, DUTCH...UNTIL YOU KILLED ME!
WHA? WHO IS IT? ERIC..YOU SOUND... LIKE AUNT BETH! ERIC ..ISN'T THAT YOU?

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

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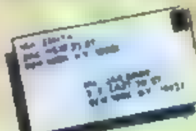

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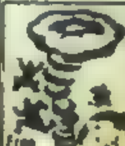

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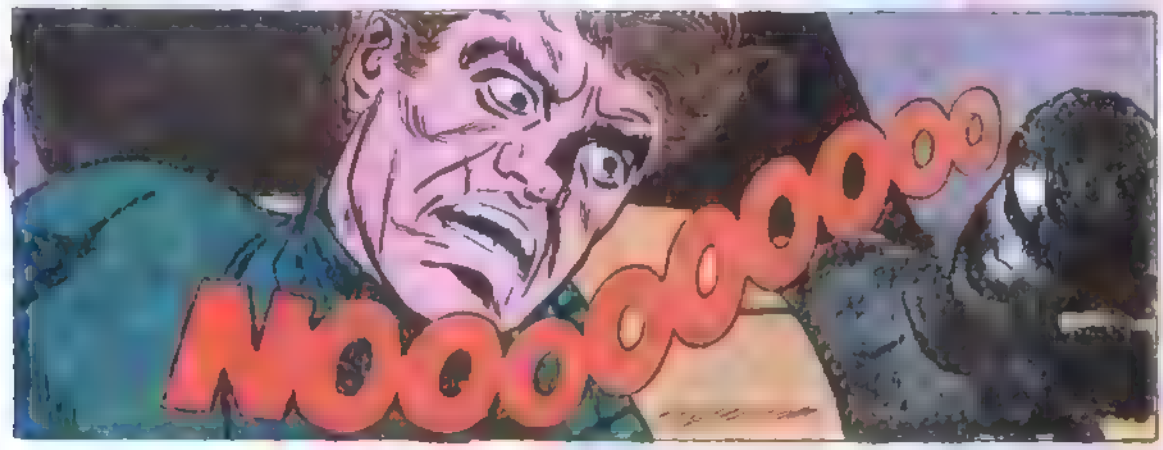
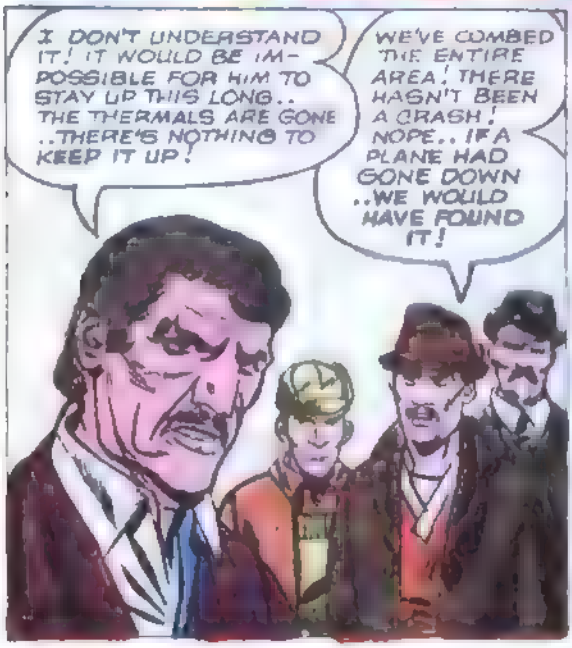
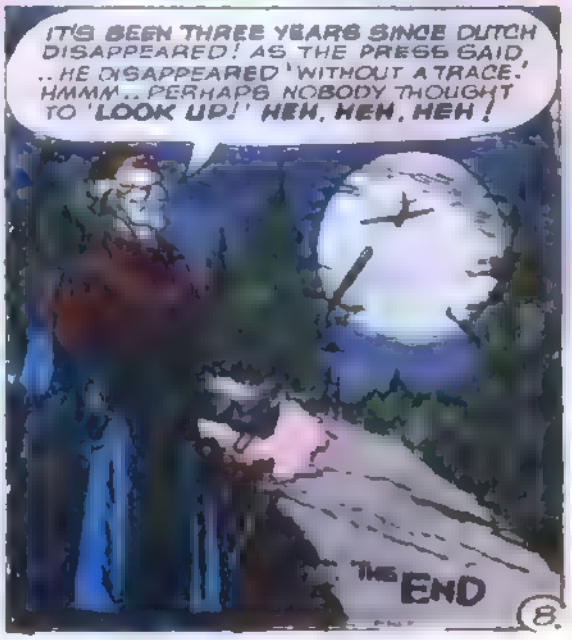
GONE! IT IS GONE! THEN WHO.. WHAT WAS TALKING OVER THE RADIO?
SOMEBODY'S IN THE HOUSE.. ON THE RADIO.. PLAYING A JOKE.. GOT TO FIND OUT WHO.. WHO SUSPECTS!
NOBODY!
IT'S WARM .. SOMEBODY TURNED IT ON.. SOMEBODY SUSPECTS ME! I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO IT IS.. GOT TO .. THEN I'LL GET RID OF THEM.. GET RID OF THEM!
TAKE ME UP.. HURRY YOU HEAR? TAKE ME UP! SOMEBODY IS TRYING TO TRICK ME! I'LL GO UP AGAIN.. WHEN THEY COME ON I'LL KNOW.. I'LL KNOW WHO IT IS.. NOW GET THAT THING HOOKED UP!

NOBODY! I'VE BEEN UP HERE FOR OVER TWO HOURS AND NOBODY. WHAT'S GOING ON! MAYBE I IMAGINED IT-MAYBE I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING!

NO, DUTCH.. YOU DIDN'T IMAGINE IT! IT WAS REAL AND SO AM I!
WHA..?


NOOOOOOOOO


I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO STAY UP THIS LONG.. THE THERMALS ARE GONE ..THERE'S NOTHING TO KEEP IT UP!
WE'VE COMBED THE ENTIRE AREA! THERE HASN'T BEEN A CRASH! NOPE.. IF A PLANE HAD GONE DOWN ..WE WOULD HAVE FOUND IT!


IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE DUTCH DISAPPEARED! AS THE PRESS SAID, ..HE DISAPPEARED 'WITHOUT A TRACE.' HMMM.. PERHAPS NOBODY THOUGHT TO 'LOOK UP!' HEH, HEH, HEH!
THE END

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Real Ghostly

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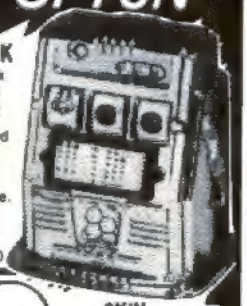

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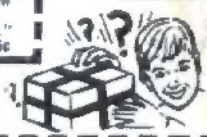

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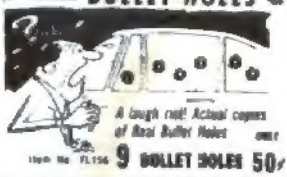

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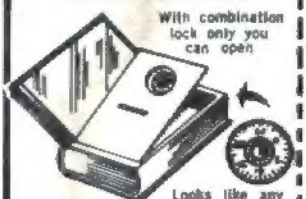

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